



City Administrator's Report

September 2011

Dear Reader,

Each month, this report from the City Administrator's Office provides a brief summary and update of major activities, events, projects, and programs that impact the Santa Barbara community. Please share your comments and suggestions with us.

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Key Meetings

Community Events

Free Movie Night	Fridays, September 2, 9, 16; dusk; Stearns Wharf. www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov
Reef and Run	Tuesdays, September 6 and 13; 5:30 p.m.; East Beach. www.reefandrun.org
Walk to Cure Diabetes	Saturday, September 10; 9 a.m.; Leadbetter Beach. www.idfla.org
September 11 th Day of Remembrance	Sunday, September 11; 10 a.m.; Santa Barbara County Courthouse Sunken Gardens
September 11 th Choral Society Concert	Sunday, September 11; 3 p.m.; 1st Presbyterian Church. 21 East Constance Avenue. www.sbchoral.org
Carrillo Recreation Center Open House	Monday-Saturday, September 12–17; 100 East Carrillo Street. www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov
Day of Caring	Saturday, September 17; 8 a.m. –1 p.m. www.unitedwaysb.org
Creek Week	September 17–25. www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov
Avon Walk for Breast Cancer	Saturday and Sunday, September 17–18; Chase Palm Park. www.avonwalk.org

Flags on State Street

United Way	August 29–September 9
September 11 th Tribute	September 9–15
UCSB	September 15–26
American Institute of Architects	September 26–October 7

Administrative Services

United Way Day of Caring. The Day of Caring will be held on Saturday, September 17. City employees will participate in cleanup and beautification efforts at Bohnett Park, the Westside United Boys and Girls Club, and Santa Barbara City College's Environmental Horticulture Program. Members of the community are invited to volunteer at Bohnett and Shoreline Parks. Participants will need to bring gloves and wear long-sleeved shirts, pants, and sturdy shoes. To signup, please call 965-8594.

2011 General Municipal Election. The City of Santa Barbara will be holding a vote-by-mail general municipal election on Tuesday, November 8, for three City Council seats. Vote-by-mail packets will be mailed on October 10. The last day to register to vote is October 24, 2011. For additional election-related information, please contact the City's Clerk's Office at 564-5309 or visit the City's website at www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov.

Airport

July Passenger Count. There was an 8.8% decrease in passenger traffic compared to last July, with 68,094 passengers arriving and departing aboard five airlines. On average, the highest capacity flights were aboard Alaska Airlines flights to Seattle (91.0%) and United Airlines flights to Denver (90.1%). Overall, the passenger count was down 3.4% for the first seven months of 2011.

Santa Barbara Beautiful Honors for the Airport. Santa Barbara Beautiful will recognize the new airline terminal as the community beautification project of the year at the 2011 Annual Awards Gala on September 25. Karen Ramsdell, the Airport Director, will also receive the Heritage Oak Award for Lifetime Achievement. Karen collaborated with private and public entities to create a sustainable structure that highlights a rich public art program.

Community Development

Redevelopment Agency Update. On August 11, the State Supreme Court issued a temporary hold on the implementation and enforcement of two redevelopment agency bills until the Court decides on other related issues. Part of the recently approved state budget, the two bills propose for the elimination of redevelopment agencies or allowing the agencies to exist if they pay a share of fees annually. On August 17, the Supreme Court modified its earlier action,

essentially freezing Agency action except for existing contracts. The court established an expedited briefing schedule so that a decision may be reached before January 15, 2012, the date by which 50% of the approximately \$7.1 million in Redevelopment Agency funds are due to the State.

Planning Commission Meetings. On September 1, the Planning Commission held a courtesy review of a Santa Barbara County project, a 90-room hotel at 4111 and 4119 State Street.

On September 8, the Planning Commission will make decisions on both the new T-hangars at the Airport and the replacement of the bottom flight of stairs and supports at the Mesa Lane steps. They will also hear an appeal of the Staff Hearing Officer's denial of modifications at 502 East Micheltorena Street. The Commission will meet at a special time of 10 a.m.

On September 15, the Planning Commission will make a decision on a proposed Children's Museum at 125 State Street and hold a scoping hearing for an Environmental Impact Report for the Plaza De la Guerra Infrastructure Improvement Project.

Fire

September is National Preparedness Month. What does it mean to be prepared? For families, it means creating an emergency supply kit to be self-reliant for at least three to five days and drafting a plan for evacuation or reconvening in the event of a separation. For information on creating a supply kit and writing a plan, visit www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov.

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Volunteer Drill. On Saturday, August 27, the first annual CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) drill took place at the Devereux campus in Goleta. This drill included CERT graduates from several agencies in Santa Barbara County. The CERT Program educates community volunteers about disaster preparedness and hazards that may affect the area in the event of a disaster. For more information, call 965-5254.

Finance

Oversize Trash Pickup. Do you have oversized items, such as mattresses, TV's, and palm fronds, which will not fit in your trash container? Residents with trash service in the City of Santa Barbara are entitled to one free annual pickup of unwanted household items. To schedule an appointment, call MarBorg Industries at 963-1852.

New Trash Hauler for Westside. On August 1, 2011, MarBorg Industries began serving the west side of Santa Barbara, previously serviced by Allied Waste. There will be no rate or service schedule changes. If you have any questions, please contact MarBorg at 963-1852.

Transient Occupancy Tax Update. Revenues for July 2011 were up 12.1%. This is very strong growth, particularly since it builds on a 12.8% growth in July of last year. These results were likely influenced by the nice July weather. Three of the past four months have seen double digit growth.

City of Santa Barbara								
TRANSIENT OCCUPANCY TAXES								
Month	FY 2009	Change Prior Year	FY 2010	Change Prior Year	FY 2011	Change Prior Year	FY 2012	Change Prior Year
July	\$1,631,965	1.2%	\$1,393,219	-14.6%	\$1,571,324	12.8%	\$1,761,991	12.1%
Aug	1,820,811	10.6%	1,474,189	-19.0%	1,591,121	7.9%		
Sept	1,196,294	-1.8%	1,106,152	-7.5%	1,154,834	4.4%		
Oct	1,049,515	-2.4%	944,230	-10.0%	1,058,405	12.1%		
Nov	770,009	-11.6%	672,636	-12.6%	752,641	11.9%		
Dec	599,323	-10.4%	588,594	-1.8%	651,909	10.8%		
Jan	680,474	-1.6%	685,633	0.8%	692,393	1.0%		
Feb	643,342	-20.7%	683,280	6.2%	742,361	8.6%		
Mar	760,032	-24.0%	823,759	8.4%	825,040	0.2%		
April	930,516	-2.9%	957,350	2.9%	1,060,466	10.8%		
May	944,898	-15.5%	1,001,965	6.0%	1,093,703	9.2%		
June	1,010,973	-19.9%	1,133,124	12.1%	1,264,961	11.6%		
FY Total	\$12,038,153	-6.9%	\$11,464,132	-4.8%	\$12,459,157	8.7%	\$1,761,991	12.1%
Budget							\$12,865,000	3.3%

Library

Public Invited to Library Plaza Redesign Workshop. The second public workshop to create a design concept for Library Plaza improvements will be held on Tuesday, September 13 from 5:30 to 8 p.m. in the Central Library's Faulkner Gallery. Consultants will present design options compiled from public input, and then participants will work in small groups to analyze and refine the options. The workshop is free and open to the public. For more information, please call 564-5461.

State Library Grants. The California State Library awarded \$5,000 to the Library's Adult Literacy Program to provide continuing education to volunteer tutors. The project will create a traveling mini-conference that will allow Library tutors to work in conjunction with tutors from the Ventura County, the Central Coast Literacy Council, and the San Luis Obispo Literacy Council. Staff members and volunteers from all programs will present workshops throughout the year.

eBooks Popular with Patrons. Patrons have downloaded nearly 10,000 eBooks through the Library website since they were introduced a year ago. There are currently over 3,300 titles available, with more added monthly. Beginning this fall, the Library will add support for Kindle users. According to publishing industry experts, half of all books sold will be eBooks by 2014.

Adult Literacy Tutor Training. Make a difference in someone's life...join the Santa Barbara Public Library's Adult Literacy Program. The program trains volunteer tutors to help adult learners improve reading, writing, and spelling skills. The next literacy tutor training

workshop will be held over four sessions on September 7, 8, 14, and 15 at the Central Library. For more information, visit www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov.

Parks and Recreation

Ribbon Cutting Celebrates Renovation of the Carrillo Recreation Center. On Thursday, September 1, the City Council, the Parks and Recreation Commission, and department staff gathered to honor the renovation of the historic Carrillo Recreation Center. After the celebration, the Center was open as part of the First Thursday event and featured works by members of the Santa Barbara Arts and Crafts show.

Free Recreation Classes September 12-17. Open House at the Carrillo Recreation Center begins Monday, September 12 with an instructor exhibition and raffle from 5:30 to 6:15 p.m. in the Carrillo Ballroom. All 54 youth and adult classes offered will be free for the entire week of September 12-17. The new fall and winter brochure provides highlights of these classes. For a complete schedule, call 897-2519 or visit www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov.

Children's Health Fair at the Franklin Neighborhood Center. The City is cosponsoring the Santa Barbara School District's Child Development Department Health Fair on Friday, September 16 at the Franklin Neighborhood Center from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Doctors, nurses, medical assistants, and health advocates will provide vision, hearing, height, and weight screenings, and dentists and hygienists will provide dental screening and fluoride varnish.

Celebrate Santa Barbara's 12th Annual Creek Week. Creek Week is an annual celebration of our local watersheds and an opportunity for community members to learn more about local creeks and the ocean through hands-on activities and volunteer events. Creek Week begins on Saturday, September 17 to coincide with Coastal Cleanup Day and will continue through Sunday, September 25. This event raises awareness of the many ways to enjoy, protect, and restore our local watersheds. Creek Week is joint effort coordinated by the City and County of Santa Barbara, City of Carpinteria, City of Goleta, and UCSB. For a full schedule of events, visit www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov.

Golf and Dine Fall Special. The Santa Barbara Golf Club and Mulligan's Café are offering a special fall package for the month of September. Tee off for nine holes of golf between 2 and 5 p.m. and then have dinner at Mulligan's (selected menu), all for \$32 per person or \$62 for two people. Golf cart discounts are also available. A fall golf special flyer must be presented upon your visit. To download the flyer, visit www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov.

Police

Recruiting for Youth Police Explorers Program. The Santa Barbara Police Explorer Program is accepting applications from youth ages 14-19 who are interested in learning more about law enforcement. Interested applicants must be enrolled in a secondary school or college with a 2.0 GPA, be free from any felony convictions, and be drug-free.

Explorers work at community service events and assist in police functions, including holiday ceremonies, parades, safety and career fairs, and Citizen's Academies. Explorers also assist

with traffic and crowd control and go on ride-a-longs with officers. Explorers will be taught drill and ceremony, report writing, basic legal concepts, and participate in physical training. For information on the Explorer post, call 897-3702 or 897-2332.

Citizen's Academy. The Police Department is accepting applications for Citizen Academies, offered in both English and Spanish. The Citizen Academy meets once a week for eight weeks. Attendees will learn how the divisions within the police department function and will experience demonstrations from specialized units such as K-9, Bomb Squad, and SWAT. The Citizens Academy in English is projected to start in October, and the Citizens Academy in Spanish is projected to start in February 2012. Spaces are limited, so please call 897-2332 or 897-3702 to be placed on a waiting list.

Public Works

Ocean Friendly Gardens Workshop. The Surfrider Foundation's Ocean Friendly Gardens Program is a class series sponsored by the City that provides education and training in establishing gardens that apply CPR: Conservation of natural resources, Permeability of soils, and Retention of rainfall. The next class is a free workshop on Sunday, September 11, at Spencer Adams Park, 1216 De la Vina Street, from 10 a.m to 1 p.m. Participants will evaluate the site for water use and runoff, create an irrigation budget, determine rainwater harvest potential, and develop design concepts. For more information, visit www.OceanFriendlyGardens.org.

Water Education Classes Offered for Grades K-12. Not to forget our youngest water users, the City provides water education to local K-6 students through school presentations that teach about the importance of the water cycle and water conservation. Tours at the El Estero Wastewater Treatment Plant are offered to 3rd through 12th graders, including an option to enter the plant's "stinky tank." For more information on the City's youth water education programs, call 897-2672 or visit www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov.

Ortega Street Bridge Replacement Construction Updates. During August, crews continued pile driving and poured concrete for the bridge abutments and creek retaining walls. This work will continue into September and creek improvements will begin. The 300 block of West Ortega Street between Castillo and Bath Streets remains closed to through traffic, although local traffic may enter Ortega Street from either side of the bridge construction area. Construction is expected to be complete in the spring of 2012. For more information, visit www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov.

Waterfront

Free Movies on Stearns Wharf. Free Friday night movies on Stearns Wharf continue with *The Never Ending Story* on September 9 and *Shrek* on September 16. Families are encouraged to dress warmly and bring blankets and beach chairs. Movies are shown on the large screen at the seaward-end of the Wharf. All movies start at dusk, and free parking is available after 7 p.m. Popcorn and refreshments will be available for purchase. For movie and costume contest details, visit www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov.

Harbor and Seafood Festival. The City and the Santa Barbara Maritime Museum will be hosting the Harbor and Seafood Festival on Saturday, October 8, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visitors will enjoy fresh seafood from the Santa Barbara Channel, meet local fishermen, and listen to live music by The Ride, Spencer the Gardener, and Fish and the Seaweeds. The event also features interactive maritime education, children's activities, arts and crafts vendors, free boat rides, and a tall-ship visit by *The Sprit of Dana Point*. Admission is free. For more information, visit www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov.

Fall Cruise Ship Visits to Santa Barbara. The *Sapphire Princess* will be returning to Santa Barbara on September 25 and October 2. The 950-foot vessel will anchor a half-mile offshore, and the 2,700 passengers and 500 crewmembers will be shuttled to the Harbor. From there, passengers will depart for walking tours, bus tours, wine country visits, and shopping trips.